

To: Mcseveney, Megan[mcseveney.megan@epa.gov]
From: Gebien, Charles
Sent: Thur 3/27/2014 5:52:19 PM
Subject: FW: RA Weekly Report Items for ERS4
[BP beach clean-up.jpg](#)
[BP Wastewater Treatment area.jpg](#)
Not responsive

As requested

From: Gebien, Charles
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:54 AM
To: Borries, Samuel; El-Zein, Jason; Johnson, Tracy L.
Subject: RA Weekly Report Items for ERS4

Here are the write-ups for **Not responsive** the BP Refinery spill. The attached photos titles may serve as the photo captions.

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BP Whiting Refinery Crude Oil Release, Whiting Indiana

On the evening of March 24, 2014, EPA responded to a release of crude oil from the BP Whiting Refinery to Lake Michigan. Crude Oil originating at the 12 pipe area cooling system flowed to the waste water treatment plant and into the #6 oil water separator. The crude was discovered by an electronic sensor in the #6 oil water separator at approximately 4.30 PM on March 24, 2014. The # 6 oil water separator unit became oversaturated with oil, and began discharging directly to Lake Michigan via the permitted NPDES outfall on BP property. The oil was detected by an electronic sensor in the waste water treatment plant around 4 PM. BP immediately deployed 1000 feet of boom around the discharge that was in place by 6pm. BP immediately began vacuum truck operations to remove the oil from the separator unit. When EPA arrived on scene at approximately 9pm, Mar 24, there was no visible discharge of oil from the NPDES permitted outfall to the lake. Oil was observed in the water behind the boom and recovery operations were being conducted in the oil water separator. Boom was deployed across the water to contain the oil sheen, and 12 vacuum trucks were operating in both the #6 separator, and on the lake shore.

EPA will continue 24 hour oversight of BP oil response activities to remediate oil, tar balls on the beach, oiled rocks and remove oil from the oil water separator. The volume of crude oil released is still unknown. There is currently no oil discharging from the outfall into Lake Michigan

Approximately 12 vacuum trucks are cleaning oil from the unit 6 separator and crews are cleaning oil globs from the beach. The beach area is on BP property and is about 2700 linear feet long. BP has established an air monitoring system and deployed a skimmer barge to remove boomed oil. The facility established a command post that includes EPA, USCG, and IDEM. An EPA PIO and an additional OSC with two START contractors have deployed to the scene.

Media Interest: Heavy local and some national news stories

Contact: Mike Beslow (312)353-8678